

2. In re Application of:

Application No.: 09/361,626

Group Art Unit: 1724

Examiner: Cintins

For: PROCESS FOR REMOVING
ALUMINUM SPECIES FROM ALKALI
METAL HALIDE BRINE SOLUTIONS

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Sir:

1. Transmitted herewith is an Amendment and Response in response to the Office Action dated June 25, 2002.
2. Additional papers enclosed:
3. Extension of Time

The proceedings herein are for a patent application and the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) apply.

- ☒ Applicant believes that no extension of time is required. However, this conditional petition is being made to provide for the possibility that applicant has inadvertently overlooked the need for a petition and fee for extension of time.
- ☐ Applicant petitions for an extension of time, the fees for which are set out in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a), for the total number of months checked below:

<u>Total Months Requested</u>	<u>Fee for Extension</u>	<u>[Fee for Small Entity]</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> one month	\$ 110.00	\$ 55.00
<input type="checkbox"/> two months	\$ 400.00	\$ 200.00
<input type="checkbox"/> three months	\$ 920.00	\$ 460.00
<input type="checkbox"/> four months	\$ 1,440.00	\$ 720.00

Extension of time fee due with this request: \$_____

If an additional extension of time is required, please consider this a Petition therefor.

- ☐ An extension for _____ months has already been secured and the fee paid therefor of \$_____ is deducted from the total fee due for the total months of extension now requested.

4. Constructive Petition

- ☒ EXCEPT for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. § 1.18, the Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this application including fees due under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required, including any required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 50-0310. This paragraph is intended to be a CONSTRUCTIVE PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3).

5. Fee Calculation (37 C.F.R. §1.16)

CLAIMS AS AMENDED						
	Claims Remaining After Amendment		Highest No. Previously Paid	Present Extra	at Rate of	Total Fees
Total Claims (37 C.F.R. §1.16(c))	0	minus	20	0	x \$18 each=	+ \$0
Independent Claims (37 C.F.R. §1.16(b))	0	minus	3	0	x \$84 each=	+ \$0
[] First presentation of Multiple dependent claim(s)					\$280.00	+ \$
SUB-TOTAL =						\$
Reduction by ½ for filing by a small entity						- \$
TOTAL FEE =						\$0

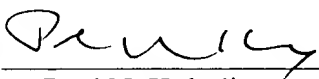
6. Fee Payment

- ☐ No fee is to be paid at this time.
- ☐ Check in the amount of \$_____ for _____. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional extension of time fee or additional fee for claims due to Deposit Account No. 50-0310.
- ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, including fees due under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 50-0310.

Respectfully submitted,

MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP

Dated: August 29, 2002

By: 
Paul N. Kokulis
Reg. No. 16,773

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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1.W.
9-3-02

In re Application of
MOK ET AL

Serial No.: 09/361,626

Group Art Unit: 1724

Filed: July 27, 1999

Examiner: Cintins

Title: PROCESS FOR REMOVING
ALUMINUM SPECIES FROM
ALKALI METAL HALIDE
BRINE SOLUTIONS

August 29, 2002

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Honorable Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED
AUG 30 2002
10:10 AM

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated June 25, 2002, please amend the above application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

C1
1. (Amended) A method for the reduction of soluble aluminum species in an evaporated salt alkali metal halide brine containing up to 500 ppb aluminum species to provide a brine feedstock suitable for use in a chlor-alkali membrane cell process, said method comprising:

- (a) treating said brine with a magnesium salt in an amount to provide a Mg to Al molar ratio selected from 5-20 to 1 and at a Mg concentration of from 0.5 to 5 ppm, and sufficient alkali metal hydroxide to provide an excess alkalinity concentration of between 0.1-0.3 g/L alkali metal